AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

- (1) Please amend the paragraph at page 7, lines 18-20, as follows:
- figure 2 shows a flow diagram related to implementing a first step of a user authentication method according to the invention; [[and]]
 - (2) Please amend the paragraph at page 7, lines 21-23, as follows:
- figure 3 shows a flow diagram related to implementing a second step of the user authentication method according to the invention[[.]];
- (3) Please add the following two new paragraphs at page 7, after line 23, following the description of figure 3, as follows:
- figure 4 is another schematic representation of a user authentication architecture according to the invention; and
- figure 5 is another schematic representation of a user authentication architecture according to the invention.